

Application Serial No.: 08/447,447
Attorney Docket No.: PMC-003 C270
Examiner Chan Park

DRAFT PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A method of communicating and controlling receiving and presenting video or audio mass medium programming in a network, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting to a computer at an intermediate television transmission station data related to said programming;

~~transmitting~~ receiving a first downloadable code related to said video or audio mass medium programming ~~to~~ at said intermediate television transmission station from an originating television transmission station;

detecting the presence of said first downloadable code at said intermediate television transmission station and passing said detected first downloadable code to said computer;

generating a second downloadable code by processing said inputted data under control of said first downloadable code; and

transmitting said video or audio mass medium programming and said second downloadable code to at least one receiver station; ~~and~~

~~causing wherein~~ said at least one receiver station ~~to receive~~ receives and ~~present~~ presents information to ~~perform one of completing and supplementing~~ supplement said video or audio mass medium programming under control of said generated second downloadable code.

3. (Currently amended) A method of communicating signals in a television communications network, said television communications network including at least one origination station and a plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations having a receiver, at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, a transmitter, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, and a detector operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, said method comprising the steps of:

~~transmitting~~ receiving in each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations an information transmission, including at least one generation instruction and at least one signal for comparison from said at least one origination station;

~~receiving in each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations said information transmission;~~

detecting in each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations said at least one generation instruction and said at least one signal for comparison;

passing in each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations said at least one generation instruction and said at least one signal for comparison to said automatic control unit;

generating in each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations a respective generated signal in accordance with said at least one generation instruction; and

comparing, under control of said automatic control unit at each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said at least one signal for comparison with stored information;

transferring in each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations said respective generated signal to said transmitter ~~based on at least one comparison performed by said~~

~~automatic control unit in accordance with said at least one signal for comparison~~ as a result of said step of comparing, wherein ~~said~~ a first of said respective generated signals when generated by a first of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is different from a second of said respective generated signals when generated by a second of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

4. (Currently amended) A method of communicating signals in a television communications network, said television communications network including at least one origination station, ~~and a~~ plurality of intermediate television transmission stations and a plurality of receiver stations, each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations having a receiver, at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, a transmitter, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, and a detector operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, said method comprising the steps of:

(1) ~~originating at least one generation instruction to effect each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to generate processor instructions in accordance with said at least one generation instruction~~ said at least one origination station video or audio mass medium programming;

(2) ~~originating at least one transmission signal~~ said at least one origination station first downloadable code related to said video or audio mass medium programming to effect each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to transmit said processor instructions in accordance with said at least one transmission signal generate second downloadable code by processing data input at each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said second downloadable code to effect at least one of said plurality of receiver stations to receive and present information to supplement said video or audio mass medium programming;

(3) transmitting, from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said at least one generation instruction video or audio mass medium programming; and

(4) transmitting, from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said at least one transmission signal first downloadable code.

5. (Currently amended) A method of communicating television signals in a communications network, said communications network including at least one ~~transmitter~~ origination station including a transmitter, ~~and a plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, and a plurality of receiver stations,~~ each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations having a receiver, at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, and a detector operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, said method comprising the steps of:

(1) ~~originating an information transmission including an instruct signal which is effective, at a transmitter station, to generate, at said at least one origination station, at least one generation instruction to effect, that instructs each respective one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to generate content of a second signal in accordance with said at least one generation instruction and transfer said second signal to said transmitter of said respective one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations in accordance with at least one signal for comparison and based on at least one comparison performed by said automatic control unit of said respective one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations;~~

(2) ~~originating a control, at said at least one origination station, at least one signal which operates at said transmitter station to communicate said at least one generation instruction to a transmitter for comparison, wherein at said automatic control unit of each respective one of said~~

plurality of intermediate television transmission stations a comparison is performed with said at least one signal for comparison and stored information, wherein transmission of said second signal to at least one of said plurality of receiver stations is based on the result of said comparison and wherein said second signal generated by a first of said plurality of intermediate stations is different from said second signal generated by a second of said plurality of intermediate stations; and

(3) transmitting, to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said information transmission, an information transmission including said instruct signal at least one generation instructon and said control at least one signal for comparison.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~communicating signals~~ presenting information to supplement audio or video mass medium programming in a communications network, said communications network including ~~at least one an~~ an origination station ~~and, a plurality of intermediate television transmission stations and a plurality of receiver stations, each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations having a receiver, at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, a transmitter, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, and a detector operatively connected to said automatic control unit, said~~ method comprising the steps of:

~~transmitting instructions from said at least one origination station, said instructions including at least one generation control signal;~~

~~transmitting data for processing from said at least one origination station;~~

receiving at each of said plurality of receiver stations from said plurality of transmitter stations said audio or video mass medium programming, said audio or video mass medium programming originating from said origination station;

~~receiving said instructions and said data for processing in each of~~ downloadable code at each
of said plurality of receiver stations from said plurality of intermediate television transmission
stations, and ~~detecting said at least one generation control signal , wherein each of said plurality of~~
~~intermediate transmission stations passes at least one of (1) said at least one generation control signal~~
~~and (2) said data for processing to said automatic control unit, and wherein each of said plurality of~~
~~intermediate transmission stations generates a signal by processing stored data and said data for~~
~~processing in accordance with said at least one generation control signal~~ said downloadable code
generated at said plurality of intermediate stations under control of instructions originating from said
origination station such that said signal downloadable code when generated by a first of said
plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is different from said signal downloadable
code when generated by a second of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations;
outputting said video or audio mass medium programming at each of said plurality of
receiver stations; and
executing said downloadable code at each of said plurality of receiver stations to control each
of said plurality of receiver stations to receive and present information to supplement said video or
audio mass medium programming.

7. (Cancelled) ~~A method of communicating signals in a communications network, said~~
~~communications network including at least one origination station and a plurality of intermediate~~
~~transmission stations, each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations having a receiver,~~
~~at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, a transmitter, an automatic~~
~~control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, and a detector operatively~~
~~connected to said automatic control unit, wherein each said automatic control unit is programmed to~~
~~perform in a station-specific fashion, said method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(1) originating an information transmission including at least one generation control signal to effect each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to generate a generation instruction by processing stored data in accordance with said at least one generation control signal; and~~

~~(2) transmitting said information transmission including said at least one generation control signal.~~

8. (Cancelled) ~~A method of communicating signals in a communications network, said communications network including at least one transmitter station including a transmitter, and a plurality of intermediate transmission stations, each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations having a receiver, at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, a transmitter, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, a detector operatively connected to said automatic control unit, wherein each said automatic control unit is programmed to perform in a station-specific fashion, said method comprising the steps of:~~

~~(1) originating an information transmission including an instruct signal which is effective, at a transmitter station, to generate at least one generation control signal which is effective to enable at least one of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to generate a generation instruction by processing stored data in accordance with said at least one generation control signal;~~

~~(2) originating a communications control signal which operates at said transmitter station to communicate said at least one generation control signal to a transmitter; and~~

~~(3) transmitting said information transmission, said instruct signal and said communications control signal.~~

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one generation instruction instructs each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to generate

microprocessor instructions, said method further comprising the step of including said microprocessor instructions in said respective generated signal at each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said automatic control units are programmed to respond to said at least one generation instruction at different times.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein at least a portion of said information transmission includes video or audio mass medium programming, said method further comprising the steps of:

receiving a control signal which operates at each of said plurality of intermediate transmitter stations to ~~communicate~~ transmit said video or audio mass medium programming to said transmitter; ~~and transmitting said mass medium programming~~ from each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of transmitting from a second origination station a control signal which is effective to cause at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to store a second generation instruction and a second signal for comparison.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of transmitting said second generation instruction from said second origination station.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said video or audio mass medium programming comprises audio.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said automatic control unit in each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is programmed to control a switch, said switch adapted to communicate ~~an~~ said information transmission transmitted from said at least one origination station, said method further comprising the step of transmitting an instruction from said at least one origination station which causes at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission ~~station~~ stations to control its switch.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations transmits video or audio mass medium programming, said method further comprising the step of transmitting said video or audio mass medium programming from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

17. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 10, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is programmed to receive said at least one generation instruction from a local source.~~

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations generates control signals and wherein at least one receiver station outputs a video presentation in accordance with said control signals.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein a second information transmission transmitted from each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations includes said video or audio mass medium programming, said method further comprising the step of including said respective generated signal in said information transmission at each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein said step of including comprises embedding at least a portion of said respective generated signal in the normal transmission location of said video or audio mass medium programming.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said video or audio mass medium programming comprises audio.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of at least one of compiling and linking said microprocessor instructions.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations generates control signals, wherein at least one receiver station outputs a first portion of audio in accordance with said control signals, said method further

comprising the step of transmitting a second portion of audio to be output with said first portion of audio.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of transmitting a portion of said first downloadable code in said second downloadable code.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said at least one receiver station generates a portion of said information to ~~one of complete and~~ supplement said video or audio mass medium programming by processing stored data, said method further comprising the step of transmitting data to be stored at said at least one receiver station.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of transmitting said programming to said receiver station.~~

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein a plurality of instruction sets are generated at said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations in accordance with said ~~at least one generation instruction~~ first downloadable code, said plurality of instruction sets including said second downloadable code, wherein each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations transmits at least one of said plurality of instruction sets to at least one receiver station and wherein each said at least one receiver station generates output information content by processing data in accordance with at least one of said plurality of instruction sets, said method further comprising the step of transmitting said data.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 4, wherein a plurality of instructions are generated at said plurality of intermediate transmission stations in accordance with said at least one generation instruction, wherein each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations transmits a portion of said processor instructions to at least one ultimate receiver station, and wherein each said at least one ultimate receiver station outputs a television programming presentation in accordance with a portion of said processor instructions, said method further comprising the step of transmitting television programming to be outputted as a part of said television programming presentation at each said at least one ultimate receiver station.~~

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations generates a plurality of instructions in accordance with said at least one generation instruction, and wherein at least one ~~ultimate~~ of said plurality of receiver station stations generates output information content by processing data in accordance with said plurality of instructions.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations generates a plurality of instructions in accordance with said at least one generation instruction, and wherein at least one ~~ultimate~~ of said plurality of receiver

~~station~~ stations outputs a video presentation in accordance with said plurality of instructions, said method further comprising the step of transmitting video to be output with said video presentation.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 6, wherein at least one ultimate receiver station outputs a first portion of audio in accordance with said signal, said method further comprising the step of transmitting a second portion of audio to be output with said first portion of audio.~~

37. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of transmitting data to be stored at said plurality of intermediate transmission stations.~~

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 7, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations transmits a plurality of generation instructions to at least one ultimate receiver station, and wherein said at least ultimate receiver station outputs a television programming presentation in accordance with said plurality of generation instructions, said method further comprising the step of transmitting to said ultimate receiver station television programming to be presented with said television programming presentation.~~

40. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:~~
~~receiving, in said network, a class of data to be processed at said plurality of intermediate transmission stations; and~~

~~distributing said class of data to said plurality of intermediate transmission stations.~~

41. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 8, where said communications control signal includes an instruct to embed.~~

42. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 8, wherein said at least one generation control signal enables each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to transmit a plurality of generation instructions to at least one ultimate receiver station, and wherein each said at least one ultimate receiver station outputs a television programming presentation in accordance with said plurality of generation instructions, said method further comprising the step of transmitting, to each said at least one ultimate receiver station, television programming to be outputted with said television programming presentation.~~

43. (Currently amended) A method of communicating and controlling at least one of the reception and presentation of television programming in a network, said network including a programming origination station, an intermediate television transmission station, and at least one subscriber station, said intermediate television transmission station including a receiver and a transmitter, and said at least one subscriber station including at least one output device, said method comprising the steps of:

storing computer program code at said intermediate television transmission station related to first programming;

inputting to a computer at said intermediate television transmission station data related to said first programming;

~~transmitting~~ receiving a first control signal ~~to~~ at said intermediate television transmission station from said programming origination station;

detecting said first control signal at said intermediate television transmission station and passing said first control signal to said computer;

executing said stored computer program code in response to determining the composition of said first control signal;

generating at said intermediate television transmission station downloadable computer program code by processing said data under control of said stored computer program code;

transmitting said downloadable computer program code to said at least one subscriber station in response to determining the composition of a second control signal;

~~transmitting said first programming to said intermediate transmission station;~~

receiving said first programming at said intermediate television transmission station from said programming origination station; and

transmitting a third control signal and said first programming from said intermediate television transmission station to said at least one subscriber station; ~~and causing one of said at least one subscriber station, under control of said generated downloadable computer program code,~~ controlling said at least one subscriber station to at least one of receive second programming and present said second programming with said first programming at said at least one output device, wherein said third control signal ~~executes~~ causes said at least one subscriber station to execute said downloadable computer code ~~at said subscriber station.~~

44. (Currently amended) A method of communicating signals in a television communications network, said television communications network including at least one origination station and a plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, each of said intermediate television

transmission stations having a receiver, at least one signal generator operatively connected to said receiver, a transmitter, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said at least one signal generator, and a detector operatively connected to said automatic control unit, wherein each said automatic control unit is programmed to perform in a station-specific fashion, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting information content of at least one first signal from said at least one origination station to each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said information content of at least one first signal including at least one generation instruction;

transmitting information content of at least one transmission control signal from said at least one origination station to each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations;

receiving at each one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations said information content of at least one first signal;

detecting, at each one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said at least one generation instruction;

receiving, at each one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said information content of at least one transmission control signal;

passing, at each one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, said at least one generation instruction to said automatic control unit;

generating, at each one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, in accordance with said generation instruction, information content of a second signal;

transferring including, at each one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, ~~to said transmitter in accordance with said transmission control signal~~, said information content of a second signal in a second signal; and

transmitting from each intermediate television transmission station of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to at least one respective receiver station in accordance with said information content of at least one transmission control signal said second signal, such that the transmission time of said second signal when transmitted from a first of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is different from the transmission time of said second signal when transmitted from a second of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein said at least one generation instruction instructs each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to generate microprocessor instructions and said automatic control unit is programmed with data of at least one of (i) at least one formula and (ii) at least one item to be generated.

46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein said automatic control ~~units are~~ unit of each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is programmed to respond to said at least one generation instruction at a different times time.

47. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein said at least one first signal .contains video or audio mass medium programming, said method further comprising the steps of:

communicating said video or audio mass media programming to said transmitter based on receipt of said at least one transmission control signal; and

retransmitting said video or audio mass medium programming from each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations at a time that is different at each intermediate television transmission station.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising the step of transmitting from a second origination station an instruct signal that causes at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to store a second generation instruction and a second transmission instruction.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising the step of transmitting said second generation instruction from said second origination station.

50. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47, wherein said video or audio mass medium programming includes audio.

51. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations further has a switch and ~~an~~ said automatic control unit ~~that~~ is programmed to control said switch.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations retransmits programming, said method further comprising the step of transmitting said programming from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

53. (Cancelled) ~~The method of claim 46, wherein at least one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations is programmed to receive at least one generation instruction from a local source.~~

54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein a retransmission control signal instructs said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to retransmit immediately, said method further comprising the step of selecting at least one of said at least one generation instruction and said at least one transmission instruction to store and retransmit.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said programming includes said second signal.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein at least a portion of said second signal is embedded in the normal transmission location of said programming.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein said programming includes audio.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising the step of at least one compiling and linking said microprocessor instructions.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising the step of transmitting at least one of a signal for comparison and at least one retransmission control signal from a first one of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.

61. (Currently amended) A method of communicating audio or video mass medium signals in a communications network, said communications network including at least one origination station ~~and a plurality of intermediate television transmission stations, and a plurality of subscriber stations,~~ each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations having a transmitter, a receiver, at least one signal generator that is operatively connected to said receiver, an automatic control unit operatively connected to said signal generator, and a detector operatively connected to said automatic control unit, each automatic control unit being programmed to perform in a station specific fashion, said method comprising the steps of:

originating a first ~~generation instruction~~ programming at said at least one origination station ~~that instructs each of said plurality of intermediate transmission stations to generate processor instructions in accordance with said first generation instruction ;~~

originating a ~~second generation instruction~~ first control signal at said at least one origination station that instructs each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to ~~generate a signal including said processor instructions in accordance with said second generation instruction~~ execute computer program code stored at each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to generate downloadable computer program code by processing data input to a computer at each of said plurality of intermediate television transmission station under control of said stored computer program code, said generated downloadable computer program code, when transmitted to at least of said plurality of subscriber stations, causing said at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to receive second programming and present said second programming with said first programming;

originating a second control signal at said at least one origination stations that instructs each said of said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations to transmit said generated downloadable computer program code to said at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations;

transmitting said first ~~generation instruction~~ programming from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations; and

transmitting said first control signal from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate transmission stations; and

transmitting said second ~~generation instruction~~ control signal from said at least one origination station to said plurality of intermediate television transmission stations.